



COMMAND RELATIONSHIPS AND THE SAFETY PROFESSIONAL / AVIATION SAFETY OFFICER



AGENDA

- ❖ COMMANDER RELATIONSHIPS
- ❖ AUTHORITY VS RESPONSIBILITY
- ❖ RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMANDER
- ❖ STARTING OFF RIGHT
- ❖ TERMS OF THE RELATIONSHIP
- ❖ DOs
- ❖ DON'Ts
- ❖ MAKING SOUND RECOMMENDATIONS
- ❖ TIPS FOR SUCCESS
- ❖ SUMMARY
- ❖ QUESTIONS

09/10/16



COMMANDER RELATIONSHIPS



- ❖ BRIGADE COMMANDERS AND LOWER MAY NOT HAVE MUCH OF A WORKING EXPERIENCE WITH THE DACs

- ❖ COMMANDERS AT ALL LEVELS HAVE A FULL LOAD

- ❖ COMMANDERS EXPECT YOU TO BE THE SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT



AUTHORITY VS. RESPONSIBILITY



- ❖ YOU ARE AN ADVISOR TO THE COMMANDER

- ❖ YOU HAVE LIMITED AUTHORITY

- ❖ YOU MAY BE DELEGATED AUTHORITY



AUTHORITY VS. RESPONSIBILITY



❖ Know 101-5...

- ❖ Know your responsibility in risk management during the military decision making process
- ❖ Be able to train staff on their risk management responsibilities
- ❖ Remember, you are the staff integrator of risk management for the commander
- ❖ **Be technically and tactically competent on the unit's METL and missions**



RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMANDER



❖ **BECOME A TRUSTED AGENT**

- AS A DAC YOU ARE THE CONTINUITY
- AS THE ASO YOU ARE THE WORD OF EXPERIENCE

❖ **BE AN HONEST BROKER**

- CREDIBLE
- DEPENDABLE
- VISIBLE
- VALUABLE



STARTING OFF RIGHT



- ❖ HAVE A PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE
- ❖ INTRODUCE YOURSELF
- ❖ SET-UP AN OFFICE CALL - LET HIM KNOW HOW YOU WILL ASSIST HIM IN ACCOMPLISHING THE MISSION
- ❖ AVOID BEING PERCEIVED AS A THREAT AND/OR HINDRANCE TO THE MISSION



STARTING OFF RIGHT



CONTINUED...

- ❖ LET THE COMMANDER KNOW YOUR PRIMARY GOAL IS TO ASSIST HIM

- ❖ DON'T BE AFRAID TO TALK TO THE COMMANDER – GET TO KNOW HIM ON AND OFF DUTY

- ❖ MAKE AN EFFORT TO ATTEND THE ORGANIZATION'S SOCIALS

- ❖ BE A TEAM PLAYER



TERMS OF RELATIONSHIP



KNOW...

- ❖ HOW OFTEN WOULD THE COMMANDER LIKE TO BE BRIEFED ON ISSUES
- ❖ WHAT DOES HE CLASSIFY URGENT MATTERS OR ISSUES; HOW DO YOU APPROACH CONFLICTING OPINIONS
- ❖ BE READY FOR CHANGES; DON'T STAY IN THE COMFORT ZONE
- ❖ YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE IS VALUABLE TO THE UNIT'S MISSION



DOS

DOS



- ❖ HAVE FACTUAL DATA TO SUPPORT YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS
- ❖ OFFER YOUR ASSISTANCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS
- ❖ SEEK OTHERS' OPINIONS; WORK WITH ALL MILITARY AND DAC PERSONNEL
- ❖ HAVE ALL REGULATIONS AND POLICIES CURRENT
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DON'TS



DON'T...

- ❖ PRESENT A PROBLEM WITHOUT A PROPOSED SOLUTION OR RECOMMENDED COURSES OF ACTION
- ❖ HESITATE TO GIVE YOUR EXPERT OPINION
- ❖ MISUSE THE COMMANDER'S NAME - "COMMANDER SAID" / "COMMANDER WANTS"
- ❖ TRY TO IMPRESS THE COMMANDER
- ❖ BE CLOSE MINDED TO NEW IDEAS



MAKING SOUND RECOMMENDATIONS



- ❖ ANALYZE ALL THE FACTS, FOLLOW THE REGS AND POLICIES
- ❖ REVIEW OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS
- ❖ GAIN APPROVAL FROM THE COMMANDER



TIPS FOR SUCCESS



❖ BE PROACTIVE

- BE THE “EYES AND EARS” FOR THE COMMANDER
- TAKE THE INITIATIVE AND FIX PROBLEMS BEFORE THEY ESCALATE
- GAIN AND MAINTAIN TECHNICAL AND TACTICAL PROFICIENCY
- BE MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY FIT



TIPS FOR SUCCESS



CONTINUED...

❖ **BE LOYAL TO THE COMMANDER**

- UNLESS IT IS ILLEGAL, IMMORAL, OR
UNETHICAL, ALWAYS SUPPORT THE COMMANDER

❖ **FOCUS YOUR PRIORITIES**

- DEDICATE YOURSELF TO PROVIDING AN
INCREASED QUALITY OF LIFE AND A SAFER
ENVIRONMENT FOR THE SOLDIERS AND THEIR
FAMILIES



SUMMARY



❖ RELATIONSHIPS / AUTHORITY VS. RESPONSIBILITY

- YOU'RE THE CONTINUITY FOR THE UNIT
- YOU'RE THE SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT

❖ STARTING OFF RIGHT

- INTRODUCTION
- OFFICE CALL
- MISSION & GOALS

❖ DOs & DON'Ts

- HAVE FACTUAL DATA
- PROVIDE RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS
- EXPECT CHANGES

❖ TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- BE PROACTIVE
- TAKE INITIATIVE
- BE DEDICATED



QUESTIONS